

Ah Counter

Role/Function:

Count and make note of the words or sounds that each speaker uses as a crutch or pause-filler. Use the clicker provided (found in the AH Counter can) to provide immediate feedback to speakers alerting them to the use of fillers. Do not click during prepared speeches or speeches given by guests, but do keep track of filler use and report at the end of the meeting. You may want to encourage speakers to not acknowledge the clicker (such as a thanks or apology) or their use of fillers but instead continue speaking as though it never occurred.

Key Responsibilities:

- Listen for words like so, and, well, you know
- Listen for sounds like er, um, ah
- Listen for repetitive words or phrases like "I, I", "Well, well"

Penalty:

A penalty of 5 cents will be incurred for each infraction, with a maximum charge of 25 cents. Guests are exempt.

Timer

Function Key Responsibilities:

Learning to express your thoughts within a specific time interval is an important part of the training and practice that Toastmasters offers its members. As Timer, you will keep track of the time for tabletops, speeches and evaluations and report back on how well individuals did, in meeting their timing objectives. Those who qualify will be eligible for the best tabletops, best speaker, and best evaluation awards that are voted on throughout the meeting.

Timing begins the moment the speaker begins communicating with the audience, whether that is through speaking, singing, gesturing, chanting, etc.

If the speech time is different than what's in the manual, it must first be approved by the VPE.

• **Tabletops:**

speeches must be between 1 minute and 2 minutes 30 seconds to qualify. There is no 30 second grace period for tabletops. You should demonstrate the lighting device for the benefit of the guests, but to save time during your explanation, you only need to do this once.

Timing should be signaled as follows:

- 1:00: Green light, qualification for award
- 1:30: Yellow light
- 2:00: Red light
- 2:30: Flashing red light, disqualification for award
- 3:00: Time is up, begin applause

• **Prepared Speeches:**

To qualify, the speaker needs to speak within 30 seconds plus or minus of their specified times.

Introduce speakers and the specified times for their speeches in presentation order.

- Minimum time: Green light
- Midway point: Yellow light
- Maximum time: Red light
- 30 seconds past maximum time: Flashing red light, disqualification for award

• **Speech Evaluations:**

To qualify, the evaluator needs to speak between 2 minutes and 3 minutes 30 seconds. There is also a 30 second grace period for evaluations, so an evaluator qualifies if he/she speaks between 1 min 30 sec – 4 minutes

Timing should be signaled as follows:

- 1:30: Qualification for award - no light signal for this
- 2:00: Green light
- 2:30: Yellow light
- 3:00: Red light
- 3:30: Flashing red light, disqualification for award
- 4:00: Time is up, begin applause